

2021 Leave No Trace Hot Spot Week

TOPS Working Committee
November 4th, 2021
Gillian Rossi



What is a Hot Spot?



The Hot Spot Program identifies areas suffering from severe human-related impacts that can thrive again with Leave No Trace solutions. Each location receives a unique, site-specific blend of programs aimed at a healthy and sustainable recovery. Since 2010, Leave No Trace has conducted over 100 Hot Spots in national parks and forests, state parks, city parks and more.



In 2020, the City of Colorado Springs Regional Parks were chosen as a Hot Spot! Palmer Park and Stratton Open Space were chosen as the focus for the 2021 Hot Spot Week.

Goal (the “why”)



Increase responsible recreation practices from park visitors and staff, turn park ultra-users into ultra-stewards, set the bar for other agencies to enhance stewardship efforts, and to foster a culture of stewardship across Colorado Springs.



parks · recreation · cultural services

Coordination



Partners and Stakeholders



- Rocky Mountain Field Institute
- Guardians of Palmer Park
- “Hiking” Bob Falcone
- Incline Friends
- Aiken Audubon Society
- MTB with Stacy
- Medicine Wheel Trail Advocates
- Kinship Landing
- Red Leg Brewing Company
- Fossil Craft Beer Company
- Storybook Brewing Company
- Manitou Incline Brewing Company
- Friends of Ute Valley Park
- Corral Bluffs Alliance
- Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance
- Pikes Peak Climbers Alliance
- Trails & Open Space Coalition
- Visit Colorado Springs
- Mile High Youth Corps
- Catamount Institute
- Pikes Peak – America’s Mountain
- Cool Science Festival

Media Outreach



One of 10 'hot spots' nationwide, Colorado Springs to host outdoor stewardship events

By Seth Boster seth.boster@gazette.com Oct 6, 2021 Updated Oct 8, 2021 [View Comments](#)

Colorado Springs parks get environmental care from 'Leave No Trace' group



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2021 Leave No Trace Hot Spot Week – Do you have what it takes to be an ultra-steward? | Ranger Ramblings

GILLIAN ROSSI Oct 5, 2021 [View Comments](#)

Media Outreach





LEAVE no TRACE HOT SPOT WEEK

October 14-17, 2021

thursday

**OCT
14**

Leave No Trace Outreach Evening - Fossil Craft Beer Company

friday

**OCT
15**

Beginner Birding Workshop and Hike

Community Workday at Palmer Park

Leave No Trace Outreach Evening - Red Leg Brewing Company

Leave No Trace Outreach Evening - Manitou Brewing

saturday

**OCT
16**

Nature Photography Hike

Community Workday at Stratton Open Space

Cool Science: Park Protectors: From Palmer to Pikes Peak

Cool Science: Leave No Trace: Bigfoot Hike

"Get Outside" Event at Kinship Landing

sunday

**OCT
17**

Leave No Trace Mountain Bike Ride

GoPP Trail Project at Palmer Park

Leave No Trace Outreach Evening - Storybook Brewing

WHAT'S A HOT SPOT?

The Leave No Trace Hot Spot Program identifies areas suffering from severe human-related impacts that can thrive again with Leave No Trace solutions. Each location receives a unique, site-specific blend of programs aimed at a healthy and sustainable recovery. This year, the City of Colorado Springs Regional Parks system was nominated as a Hot Spot!



Scan QR code to learn more and register for programs.



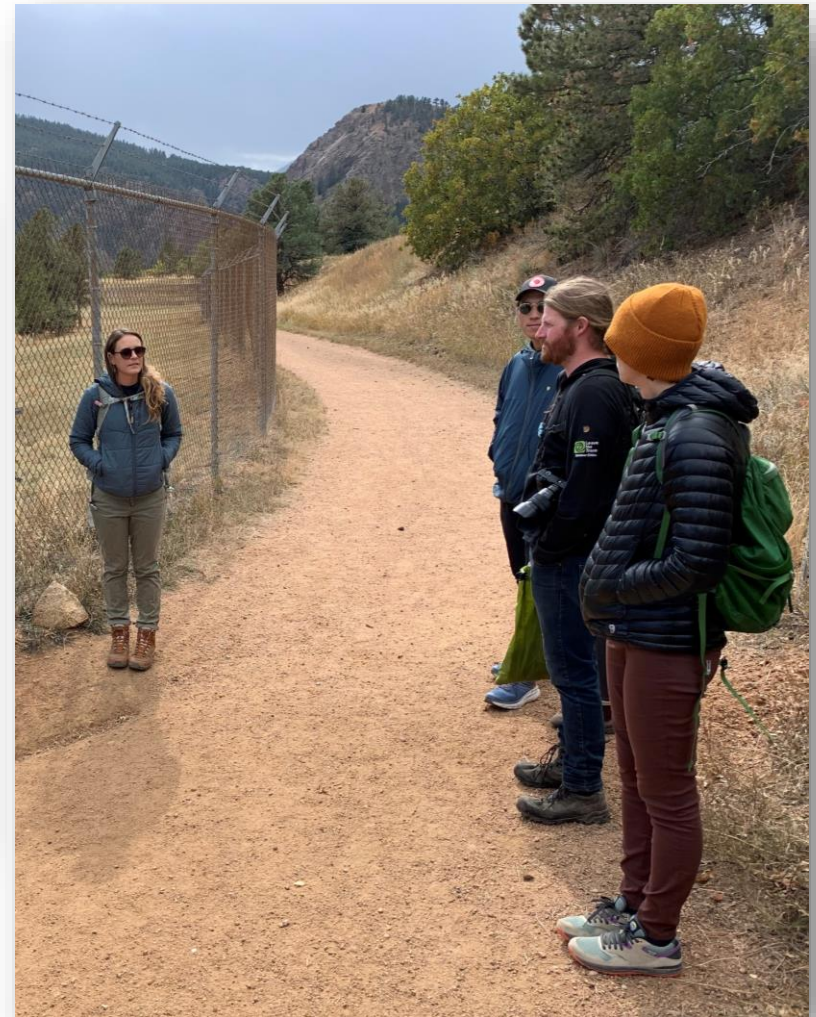
Outreach Evenings are a collaborative effort between Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services and the Fountain Creek BrewShed Alliance.



Special thanks to Deborah Black for creating the Hot Spot Week flyer and table displays!



Site Tours



Outreach and Programs



Community Workday and Beginner Birding Workshop at Palmer Park

Outreach and Programs



Outreach Evening at Red Leg Brewing Company



Outreach and Programs



Tabling at Palmer Park and Stratton Open Space



Outreach and Programs



“Get Outside” Evening at Kinship Landing

Outreach and Programs



Outreach and Programs



Review



- 432 adults reached with Leave No Trace education (and 250 dogs!)
- *Most people reached out of all the Hot Spots this year!*
- 15+ groups engaged in Hot Spot effort
- 15 events and programs
- 11 undesignated trails closed and revegetation started

What's Next?



- Leave No Trace staff will assess all data collected from the week and create a suggested Action Plan to increase responsible recreation in our park system.



In The Meantime



RPTOS Staff will continue pursuing the Leave No Trace Stewardship Initiative! Cheers!



Thank You!



Special thanks to the following City staff for making the 2021 Hot Spot Week a success. Your time and effort was invaluable!

- Mark Tatro
- Vanessa Zink
- Deborah Black
- Desirae Tucker
- Carly Kobasiar
- Carmen Borchelt
- Nate Hook
- Elaine Freeth

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- Dan Allen
- Chris Ullom
- Hayley Noneman
- Michael Bowman
- Joshua Joyner
- Madison Peddy
- Wesley Hermann
- COS Web Team